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Preliminary: U.S. Imports for Consumption of Steel Products March 2015

The U.S. Census Bureau announced today that preliminary March steel imports were \$3.1 billion (3.3 million metric tons) compared to the preliminary February totals of \$3.0 billion (3.3 million metric tons).

The March change in steel imports based on metric tonnage reflected an increase primarily in reinforcing bars, line pipe, and galvanized hot dipped sheets and strip. Decreases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. Increases occurred primarily with Turkey, India, and South Korea. Decreases occurred primarily with Russia, Brazil, and Mexico.

The year to date final statistics through February 2015 showed steel imports of 7.4 million metric tons compared with 5.9 million metric tons through February 2014. The largest commodity increases occurred primarily in oil country goods, cut plate lengths, and cold rolled sheets. Decreases occurred primarily in blooms, billets, and slabs. The largest country increases occurred primarily with South Korea. Decreases occurred primarily with Russia.

Notes:

The data in this report are preliminary and subject to revisions.

Analysis of recent months for steel product imports indicates the value of preliminary data should equal about 96 percent of the final value reported in the regular monthly trade statistics report. Preliminary data reported for individual steel categories and at the individual country of origin level have been less consistently predictive of the final data reported in the regular monthly trade statistics. For further details, visit our web site at www.census.gov/trade. On the website, you can access product by country and country by product tables.

The next release is May 26, 2015.